

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of March 14, 2002

Present: Jeff Stewart, member Kathleen Fejes, member
Gary Hauff, member Lawrence Jose, member
Tom Krent, member Doug Bordas, member
Stuart Alderman, staff Jeff Biegler, staff
Carol Anderson, staff

Absent: Orestes Kaltsounis, John Goetz, Robert O'Brien, Lucy Lu.

Visitors: Dale Zygnowicz, Rick Theuer, Kelly Theuer and Ryan Theuer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by Jeff Stewart.

A motion by Gary Hauff, supported by Kathleen Fejes, that the minutes from February 14, 2002 are approved as submitted.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

New Business

- A. Community Center Opening and Ribbon Cutting – Invitations have been mailed for the Ribbon Cutting on March 25th. All are invited to attend.
- B. Special Events Policy – A policy for special events was drafted to allow a vehicle for groups wanting to hold an event. Discussion of the new policy followed and the consensus was to recommend it with a change.

A motion by Doug Bordas, supported by Larry Jose, that the "Standards for Issuance of Special Event Permits in Parks" is recommended for approval except special events will be permitted for City operated or co-sponsored events only.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

- C. Tree Ordinance – The current tree ordinance is being revised to assess penalties when tree preservation plans are not followed.

Old Business

- A. Park Name submission – An additional name was submitted for a park in honor of a volunteer firefighter who died while on duty. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of adding plaques, boulders or bricks in parks to honor the names of people who had been submitted for park names. The board took the following action:

A motion by Gary Hauff, supported by Kathleen Fejes, that a pavilion in Firefighters Park be named “James Rupkey Pavilion” in honor of Mr. Rupkey who died while on duty.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

- B. Park Acquisitions – A handout showing pending or acquired bond land acquisitions in sections 2, 11, 24, 27 and 35 was discussed with the board.

Mr. Rick Theurer spoke to the board regarding land acquisition in section 24 on John R. His brother owns a parcel that the City wants to purchase. He would like to see the land remain in its natural state and not developed.

1. City Council has authorized an unconditioned offer to purchase a parcel of land between a City owned lot and Robinwood Park.

Member Comments

Jeff Stewart attended the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association conference in Traverse City. He attended several skatepark sessions and brought back three handouts discussing design, history, market, material construction (wood, concrete or steel), location and liability. He spoke with college students about skateparks and watched a demonstration by them. He emphasized the involvement of the skaters in a project like this.

Doug Bordas expressed confusion over the fees for Danceit classes in our spring brochure. He received a call from a participant. Staff is revising the class description and fees to make it less confusing.

Larry Jose requested to be excused from the April meeting as he will be out of town.

Staff Reports

- A. Directors Report – The operating budget has not been reviewed by the Assistant Manager/Finance. The proposed budget will be available next month.

Carol Anderson handed out the gifts to board members who were unable to attend the Boards and Commissions dinner.

- B. Recreation Report – We hosted youths from the high schools and middle schools on March 12th to get their ideas on what they would like to have in the new Community Center. They were an energetic group with many ideas. Scott Mercer will be the liaison for them.

A new staff member, the Fitness/Gym Coordinator, begins on March 18th. His name is John Hug.

- C. Parks Report – Irrigation at Boulan Lacrosse field has begun.

Crack, seal, overlay and striping of the parking lots at Flynn and Raintree parks will begin April 15th.

Over 2500 trees were trimmed by the tree crew this winter.

A motion by Tom Krent, supported by Gary Hauff, that absent members be excused.

Ayes: All Nays: None
MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Peltier